

DORENE I. FAST

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MARCH 6, 1958.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

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Mr. WALTER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1543]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1543) for the relief of Dorene I. Fast, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to waive the excluding provision of existing law relating to one who is afflicted with a mental condition in behalf of the wife of a United States citizen veteran of our Armed Forces. The bill also provides for the posting of a bond as a guaranty that the beneficiary will not become a public charge.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The beneficiary of the bill is a 39-year-old native and citizen of Great Britain who presently resides in England. She married in England on May 14, 1954, to a United States citizen member of our Armed Forces who had served from February 1948 until February 15, 1957. The beneficiary was denied a visa because of a condition resulting from a nervous breakdown suffered in 1951. Without the waiver provided for in the bill she will be unable to join her citizen husband in the United States.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
Washington, D. D., May 31, 1957.

Hon. JAMES O. EASTLAND,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,*  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (S. 1543) for the relief of Dorene I. Fast, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary. This memorandum has been prepared from the Immigration and Naturalization Service files relating to the beneficiary by the Chicago, Ill., office of this Service, which has custody of those files.

The bill would waive the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act which exclude from admission into the United States aliens afflicted with psychopathic personality, epilepsy, or a mental defect, and would authorize the alien's admission for permanent residence if she is found to be otherwise admissible. It also provides that this exemption shall apply only to grounds for exclusion under paragraph (4) of section 212 (a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of which the Secretary of State or the Attorney General has knowledge prior to the date of enactment.

Sincerely,

J. M. SWING, *Commissioner.*

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE DORENE I. FAST, BENEFICIARY OF S. 1543

Information concerning the case was obtained from Mr. Lyle Lee Fast, the beneficiary's husband.

The beneficiary, a native and citizen of Great Britain, was born on April 23, 1918. Her first marriage was terminated by divorce in 1950. She was married to her present husband in England on May 14, 1954. The first marriage of Mr. Fast was terminated by divorce. No children were born as a result of any of the marriages. Mrs. Fast resides in England.

The beneficiary is not employed. She attended school in England for 8 years. She has no assets. Her mother, stepfather, sister, half sister, and two half brothers live in England.

Mrs. Fast has never been in the United States. According to her husband, she was refused an immigrant visa by the United States consul, London, England, in April 1956, because of a condition resulting from a nervous breakdown she suffered in 1951. The committee may desire to request the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Department of State, to furnish information in this connection.

Mr. Fast is a United States citizen. He served honorably in the United States Army from February 1948, until February 15, 1957. He is employed by Consolidated Products Co., Galena, Ill., at a salary of \$85 a week. His assets consist of savings of \$150.

Senator Paul H. Douglas, the author of the bill, has submitted the following information in connection with the case:

## THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY,  
*London, January 30, 1957.*

Hon. PAUL H. DOUGLAS,  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR DOUGLAS: I have received your letter of January 17, 1957, asking to be informed of the present status of the immigrant visa application of Mrs. Doreen I. Fast, who is the wife of Mr. Lyle L. Fast.

I regret to inform you that the Embassy found it necessary to refuse Mrs. Fast's application on May 31, 1956, in accordance with the provisions of section 212 (a) (4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act prohibiting the issuance of a visa to any person who has a mental defect. At the time of the routine medical examination required of all intending immigrants, Mrs. Fast was found by the United States Public Health Service medical officer who examined her to be suffering from psychoneurotic reaction, a condition which is considered to be a mental defect within the meaning of section 212 (a) (4). The medical officer's conclusion was reached only after Mrs. Fast's condition was discussed in detail with the neuropsychiatric consultant of the Public Health Service who concurred in the diagnosis. In the circumstances the Embassy had no option but to refuse to issue a visa to her.

You may be assured that this case received every consideration consistent with existing immigration law and visa regulations.

Sincerely yours,

DONALD W. SMITH,  
*American Consul General.*

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COMPANY B, 554TH EBC,  
*Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., August 17, 1956.*

Hon. PAUL DOUGLAS,  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR DOUGLAS: I am presently serving in the United States Army and stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. However, my permanent and voting address is 344 Gear Street, Galena, Ill.

On May 14, 1954, while stationed in England with the Army, I married an English national, Dorene I. Fast, 17 Kiln Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks., England. At the present time my wife is in Fairmile Hospital, Wallingford, Berks., England, having suffered a nervous breakdown. She will be hospitalized for approximately 1 more month during which time attempts will be made to improve her physical condition since she has suffered a loss in weight.

I submitted a petition for issuance of immigrant visa for my wife to the American Embassy in London in February of 1956, but I have been advised that my petition has been denied under section 212 (a) (4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Approximately a month ago I wrote to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Washington, D. C., asking advice as to what action I might take to secure issuance of visa to my wife as I greatly desire her presence with me in this country.

I would appreciate any assistance you could give me in this matter. I have also written to Senator Everett C. Dirksen and Representative Leo Allen. If you feel it advisable to do so you may coordinate your actions with them.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

LYLE L. FAST,  
*Sp3 RA12298746.*

COMPANY B,  
554TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION),  
*Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., September 24, 1956.*

Hon. PAUL H. DOUGLAS,  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR DOUGLAS: Sp3 Lyle L. Fast, RA12298746, has been a member of this unit for 3 months. Observation during this time reveals him to be a quiet, reticent, dependable soldier morally above reproach.

I recommend Specialist Fast to you most highly and respectfully request you give him your assistance in bringing Mrs. Fast to this country.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL R. FINE,  
*Chaplain (Major) United States Army.*

COMPANY B,  
554TH ENGINEER BATTALION (CONSTRUCTION),  
*Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., September 4, 1956.*

Hon. PAUL H. DOUGLAS,  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR DOUGLAS: Sp3 Lyle L. Fast, RA12298746, has been a member of this unit for 3 months. Observation during this time reveals him to be a quiet, reticent, dependable soldier morally above reproach.

His military pay, to include all allowances, is \$286.50 per month.

I recommend Specialist Fast to you most highly and respectfully request you give him your assistance in bringing Mrs. Fast to this country.

Sincerely yours,

AUSTIN G. MILLER,  
*First Lieutenant, CE, Commanding.*

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1543) should be enacted.